

### **FIRE CHIEF**

Scott T. Burnette

828-232-4592

[stburnette@AshevilleNC.gov](mailto:stburnette@AshevilleNC.gov)

Fire Chief Scott Burnette joined the Asheville Fire Department in 1995. He was promoted to Engineer in 2001 assigned to Engine Company 1. He was promoted to Lieutenant in 2004 assigned to Engine Company 2, and again to Captain in 2006 assigned to Rescue Company 1. He was promoted to Assistant Chief in 2006. Chief Burnette has an Associate's degree in Fire Protection Technology from Gaston College, a Bachelor's degree in Fire Engineering Technology from UNC-Charlotte, and a Masters degree in Executive Fire Service Leadership from Grand Canyon University. Chief Burnette is a graduate of the United States Fire Administration's National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer Program. In 2004, he received his Chief Fire Officer Designation through the Center for Public Safety Excellence.

### **DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF**

Chris Budzinski

828-251-4013

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Deputy Fire Chief Chris Budzinski joined the Asheville Fire Department in 2001. He was assigned to Engine 1 and Engine 3 as a firefighter. He was promoted to Lieutenant in 2007 and assigned to Squad 1 and then Engine 1. Chief Budzinski was promoted to Captain in 2010. In 2012 Chief Budzinski was promoted to Battalion Chief and served in Battalion 3 and then in Battalion 1. Chief Budzinski was the fire department's Accreditation Manager from 2008 until 2012. He has an Associate's degree in Fire Protection Technology from Gaston College and a Bachelor's degree in Fire Safety Engineering Technology from UNC-Charlotte. As Deputy Fire Chief, Chief Budzinski will be responsible for coordinating with the Fire Chief for the planning, organizing & directing all phases of the operation of the fire department. This includes development of policy, leadership vision & budget organization and implementation for all elements of the department.

### **ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF**

Wayne G. Hamilton

828-259-5640

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Assistant Chief Wayne Hamilton is responsible for Technical Services. He is an Asheville area native and joined the Asheville Fire Department in 1989 as an Assistant Fire Marshal. With the retirement of the Fire Marshal, he was appointed as an "acting" Assistant Chief of Fire Prevention from 1993 to 1994. Following departmental reorganization at the end of the acting period, he was promoted to be the City's Fire Marshal in 1994. Assistant Chief Hamilton received his Bachelor's degree in Architectural Design from NC State University in 1983. In 2012, he received Fire Marshal Designation through the Center for Public Safety Excellence. Assistant Chief Hamilton is an Adjunct Faculty member for Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College's Fire Protection Technology Degree Program. He has over 29 years' experience in fire and arson investigations. He serves with both the Buncombe County Fire Investigation Support Team and the Asheville-Buncombe Arson Task Force. Assistant Chief Hamilton is certified by the International Association of Arson Investigators and the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications as a Fire-Arson Investigator and Instructor. He is very active in the fire code development process for North Carolina serving as the Chairman of the NC Fire Service Code Revision Committee for the NC Fire-Rescue Commission.

**ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF**

Barry Hendren

828-259-5646

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Assistant Fire Chief Barry Hendren is responsible for Emergency Operations. Chief Hendren joined the Asheville Fire Department in 1989. He was promoted to Engineer on Engine Company 15 in 1998. He was promoted to Captain in 2000 and was assigned to Engine Company 15 and later Ladder Company 1. He was promoted to Battalion Chief in 2004, serving in Battalion 1 on both B-Shift and C- Shift. He was then promoted Division Chief in 2009 and served as the Safety and Training Chief. Chief Hendren has an Associate Degree in Fire Protection Technology from Central Piedmont Community College and a Bachelor's Degree in Fire Engineering Technology from UNC-Charlotte. He was credentialed as a Chief Fire Officer from the Center for Public Safety Excellence in 2008 and is also a member of the Institution of Fire Engineers.